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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,879	10/30/2003	Siong Lee Lim	STL11408	9110
7590 01/13/2005				
Seagate Technology LLC				
1280 Disc Drive				
Shakopee, MN 55379				
		EXAMINER		
		PHAM, MINH CHAU THI		
		ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		
		1724		

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,879

Applicant(s)

LIM ET AL.

Examiner

Minh-Chau T. Pham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/30/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on line 9, "Figs. 3A and 3B" should be -- Figs. 4A and 4B --. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over any one of Graeve (6,475,270 B1), Ueki et al (6,712,887 B2) and Boroson et al (6,740,145 B2).

Graeve discloses an enclosure system for a disk drive comprising an enclosure having an outer surface and an inner surface, an aperture extending between the inner surface and outer surface of the enclosure wherein the aperture has a larger cross

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section adjacent the outer surface than adjacent the inner surface (see 120 in Fig. 6a) and a filter disposed within the aperture (32 in Fig. 1) and the filter comprising a desiccant (col. 5, line 64 through col. 6, line 3) (see col. 5, lines 20-64, col. 7, lines 42-60, col. 8, lines 9-16). Ueki et al discloses an enclosure system (22) for a disk drive comprising an enclosure having an outer surface and an inner surface, an aperture (24) extending between the inner surface and outer surface of the enclosure wherein the aperture has a larger cross section adjacent the outer surface than adjacent the inner surface (see Fig. 7) and a filter (F) disposed within the aperture (col. 11, lines 3-9). Ueki et al further disclose a label adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of filter (col. 11, lines 16-37). Boroson et al disclose an enclosure system (40) for a disk drive comprising an enclosure having an outer surface and an inner surface, an aperture extending between the inner surface and outer surface of the enclosure wherein the aperture has a larger cross section adjacent the outer surface than adjacent the inner surface (see Fig. 4) and a filter (50) which is desiccant disposed within the aperture. Boroson et al further disclose a seal (60) mounted to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter (col. 7, lines 23-40). It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a filter system for an electronic disk drive as taught by any one of Graeve, Ueki et al and Boroson et al to provide the best way to control of moisture inside a packaged electronic device which desiccates highly moisture-sensitive electronic devices to prevent premature device failure or premature degradation of device performance.

Conclusion

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Gidumal (6,296,691 B1) discloses a filter for removing contaminants from enclosure.
- Ueki et al (6,824,595 B2) disclose a gas adsorption filter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh-Chau T. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-1163. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon/Tues/Thur/Fri 7:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Minh-Chau Pham
Patent Examiner
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